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REMARKS

Claim Objections

Corrections to claims 8, 12 and 23 are provided as shown in Listing of Claims on previous pages.

Claim Rejections

Remarks on the rejections are presented in the heading and numeric order set forth in the original Office Action.

It is noted that the Office Action mentioned a reference Barsotti (US 4,55,331). It seems to be an incorrect patent reference. It is interpreted as US 4,455,331 in this response.

7. *Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.*

Claim 16 is amended to specifically point out the invention. Supporting data are presented in the originally filed specification, page 9, lines 9 – 27.

8. *Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 21-23, 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).*

Barsotti et al (US 4,455,331), hereafter referred to as Barsotti '331, requires polyvinyl pyrrolidone. As described in Barsotti '331 on column 12, lines 48 – 59, a paint without said polyvinyl pyrrolidone showed unacceptable properties. Barsotti '331 does not teach that a paint without polyvinyl pyrrolidone could work.

The instant invention specifically removed polyvinyl pyrrolidone to improve coating properties including drying rapidly and strike-in resistance.

Current claims 1, 16, 17, and 25 used the transitional phrase "consisting of" to specifically exclude the presence of said polyvinyl pyrrolidone that is required by Barsotti '331.

9. *Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).*

See reasoning above. Since Barsotti '331 teaches the requirement for polyvinyl pyrrolidone to have desired paint properties, combination of Barsotti '331 and Crawford (US 5,612,415) does not make the instant invention obvious.

10. *Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).*

See reasoning above. Since Barsotti '331 teaches the requirement for polyvinyl pyrrolidone to have desired paint properties, combination of Barsotti '331 and Barsotti (US 6,221,494) does not make the instant invention obvious.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the claim amendments and the distinguishing observations concerning the references overcome the rejections maintained in the final Office Action. Since the "consisting essentially of" wording has been changed to "consisting of" Applicants respectfully submit that declaration evidence called for in the final Office Action is not now necessary.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



SUDHIR G. DESHMUKH
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS
Registration No.: 33,677
Telephone: (302) 992-4385
Facsimile: (302) 992-2533

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